IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS EASTERN DIVISION

JOHN KIRBY WRIGHT, ADC #99769 **PLAINTIFF**

v.

2:13CV00078-KGB-JTK

RAY HOBBS, et al.

DEFENDANTS

PROPOSED FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS

The following recommended disposition has been sent to United States District Judge Kristine G. Baker. Any party may serve and file written objections to this recommendation. Objections should be specific and should include the factual or legal basis for the objection. If the objection is to a factual finding, specifically identify that finding and the evidence that supports your objection. An original and one copy of your objections must be received in the office of the United States District Court Clerk no later than fourteen (14) days from the date of the findings and recommendations. The copy will be furnished to the opposing party. Failure to file timely objections may result in waiver of the right to appeal questions of fact.

If you are objecting to the recommendation and also desire to submit new, different, or additional evidence, and to have a hearing for this purpose before the District Judge, you must, at the same time that you file your written objections, include the following:

- 1. Why the record made before the Magistrate Judge is inadequate.
- 2. Why the evidence proffered at the hearing before the District Judge (if such a hearing is granted) was not offered at the hearing before the Magistrate Judge.

3. The detail of any testimony desired to be introduced at the hearing before the District Judge in the form of an offer of proof, and a copy, or the original, of any documentary or other non-testimonial evidence desired to be introduced at the hearing before the District Judge.

From this submission, the District Judge will determine the necessity for an additional evidentiary hearing, either before the Magistrate Judge or before the District Judge.

Mail your objections and "Statement of Necessity" to:

Clerk, United States District Court Eastern District of Arkansas 600 West Capitol Avenue, Suite A149 Little Rock, AR 72201-3325

DISPOSITION

I. Introduction

Plaintiff John Kirby Wright is a state inmate confined at the East Arkansas Regional Unit of the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC). He filed this <u>pro se</u> 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action against Defendants, setting forth a wide range of vague allegations of kidnaping, conspiracy to murder and suicide by hypnosis (Doc. No. 2, pp. 67-75). By Order dated June 27, 2013 (Doc. No. 6), this Court granted Plaintiff's Motion to Proceed <u>in forma pauperis</u> in this lawsuit. However, finding Plaintiff's complaint too vague and conclusory to enable the Court to determine whether it was frivolous, malicious, or failed to state a claim, the Court directed Plaintiff to amend his complaint. (Id.) Plaintiff has filed two Responses to this Order (Doc. Nos. 7, 8).

II. Screening

The Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) requires federal courts to screen prisoner complaints seeking relief against a governmental entity, officer, or employee. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). The Court must dismiss a complaint or portion thereof if the prisoner has raised claims

that: (a) are legally frivolous or malicious; (b) fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted; or (c) seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b).

An action is frivolous if "it lacks an arguable basis either in law or in fact." Neitzke v. Williams, 490 U.S. 319, 325 (1989). Whether a plaintiff is represented by counsel or is appearing pro se, his complaint must allege specific facts sufficient to state a claim. See Martin v. Sargent, 780 F.2d 1334, 1337 (8th Cir.1985). An action fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted if it does not plead "enough facts to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007). In reviewing a pro se complaint under § 1915(e)(2)(B), the Court must give the complaint the benefit of a liberal construction. Haines v. Kerner, 404 U.S. 519, 520 (1972). The Court must also weigh all factual allegations in favor of the plaintiff, unless the facts alleged are clearly baseless. Denton v. Hernandez, 504 U.S. 25, 32 (1992).

Additionally, to survive a court's 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2) and 42 U.S.C. § 1997e(c)(1) screening, a complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to "state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009), citing Twombly, 550 U.S. at 570. A claim has facial plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged. Twombly, 550 U.S. at 556-7. The plausibility standard is not akin to a "probability requirement," but it asks for more than a sheer possibility that a defendant has acted unlawfully. Where a complaint pleads facts that are "merely consistent with" a defendant's liability, it "stops short of the line between possibility and plausibility of entitlement to relief." Id.

III. Facts and Analysis

In his Responses, Plaintiff objects to filing an amended complaint, stating that the State of Arkansas continues to ignore his complaints of cruel and unusual punishment, sexual harassment by hypnosis, conspiracy, and deliberate indifference (Doc. No. 7, p. 1). He alleges that unnamed individuals have used hypnosis to destroy his legal work (Id., p. 4). He does not include a statement of claim, or allegations against any of the named individual Defendants, but includes notes made on Court orders, and miscellaneous letters in which he alleges a ten-year conspiracy and deliberate indifference by hypnosis (Id.) He also includes allegations of theft and conspiracy by several of his fellow inmates (Doc. No. 8, pp. 8-14.)

In order to support a claim for relief against Defendants pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, Plaintiff must allege that a person acting under the color of state law deprived him of some Constitutional right. Griffin-El v. MCI Telecommunications Corp., et al., 835 F.Supp. 1114, 1118 (E.D.MO 1993). In addition, in order to support a claim for an Eighth Amendment violation, Plaintiff must allege that Defendants were deliberately indifferent to a serious medical, or health and safety need. Farmer v. Brennan, 511 U.S. 825, 834 (1994). Plaintiff's allegations against fellow inmates fail to support a constitutional claim, because those inmates are not state actors within the meaning of § 1983. In addition, the remaining vague allegations of conspiracy, kidnaping, and deliberate indifference by hypnosis fail to contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to "state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 678, citing Twombly, 550 U.S. at 570.

Therefore, the Court finds that Plaintiff's allegations against Defendants should be dismissed for failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

IV. Conclusion

IT IS, THEREFORE, RECOMMENDED that:

- 1. Plaintiff's Complaint and Amended Complaint against Defendants be DISMISSED, for failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.
- 2. Dismissal of this action constitute a "strike" within the meaning of the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA), 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).¹
- 3. The Court certify that an <u>in forma pauperis</u> appeal from an Order and Judgment dismissing this action would not be taken in good faith, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3).

IT IS SO RECOMMENDED this 9th day of August, 2013.

JEROME T. KEARNEY UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

¹The statute provides that a prisoner may not file an <u>in forma pauperis</u> civil rights action or appeal if the prisoner has, on three or more prior occasions, filed an action or appeal that was dismissed as frivolous, malicious or for failure to state a claim, unless the prisoner is under imminent danger of serious physical injury.